

February 28, 2008

OLDHAM COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

LOCAL/STATE BOARD FACILITIES HEARING REPORT

A Local/State public hearing was held at the Oldham County Schools Administrative Offices on February 28, 2008, at 5:30 PM (local time). The purpose of the public hearing was to propose a new District Facility Plan developed by the Oldham County Local Planning Committee. The Local Planning Committee (LPC) voted 15-0 in favor of the proposed new plan and the Board voted 5-0 to approve the new plan.

There were (5) five persons at the hearing exclusive of the hearing officer. Dr. David Weedman, Principal Oldham County High School, served as the locally-appointed hearing officer. Two community members, Superintendent Paul Upchurch, Board member Walt Schumm and Jim Ewalt were present.

COMMENTS

Paul Upchurch, Superintendent called the public hearing to order and introduced Dr. David Weedman, hearing officer for the meeting. The hearing officer outlined the purpose of the hearing and the hearing procedures in accordance with 702 KAR 1:001. It was explained that those persons wishing to speak would be given the opportunity and that written statements would be accepted. It was also noted that all considerations will be made available to the Kentucky Board of Education via the hearing officer's report. Jim Ewalt, Director of Facilities for Oldham County Schools reviewed the proposed new District Facility Plan that includes: **the construction of a new school to replace Liberty Elementary and the construction of a new Liberty Middle School, the construction of a new elementary/pre-school center, and major renovations of Centerfield Elem., LaGrange Elem., Oldham County Middle, South Oldham Middle, Oldham County High (including Building 3), Oldham County Career Center and Buckner Alternative High School. Other projects include the completion of the district white board initiative, technology power wiring at three elementary schools and Oldham County Career Center, renovations at the Administrative Annex and central bus garage, and construction of a new central storage facility and a bus maintenance facility.**

The floor was opened to those who wished to make a statement. The community members did not request any changes to the plan presented. However, they did inquire about a few items as follows:

Mr. Marc Hagan, parent and neighbor to Liberty Elementary School, wanted clarification about the schedule for beginning construction for the new Liberty Elementary and Middle School. He also wanted to know if the two schools would be constructed at the same time.

Mr. Doug Wampler, parent from North Oldham High, had the following comments and questions:

- Why was the estimated cost of construction for the Oldham County Arts Center increased so significantly since the 2006 District Facility Plan Amendment No. 1?
- What percentage of the overall project cost goes to prevailing wages?
- What percentage of funding is allocated for athletics verses core educational space?

- He was glad to see the North Oldham High School baseball field and softball field lighting included in the plan. Mr. Wampler wanted to know what the chance was of actually getting the lighting installed.
- He suggested that the school district expand existing facilities and campuses in lieu of building new schools or purchasing land for new campuses.
- He requested that the Board look at various funding mechanisms such as Impact Fees to fund facility construction.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the new District Facility Plan developed by the Oldham County Local Planning Committee and adopted by the Oldham County Board of Education be approved as the District Facility Plan for the Oldham County School District. A copy of the new plan is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

Reviewed by,

Dr. David Weedman, Hearing Officer

Timothy K. Lucas, KDE Facility Mgmt.

cc: Mark W. Ryles, Director
Planning File
Plan

Attachments: Local/State Board Public Hearing Agenda
Oldham County School District Facility